

OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2003/09/30 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100230007-6

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CLASSIFICATION

CIA/DCI

DATE/TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

ROUTING

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SOURCE REF:

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CIA/NHSS

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR. MICHAELES.

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ITEM NO: BH-9

DATE: 2 APRIL 1979

SUBJECT: COMMENT ON NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE--DAYAN SAYS SOVIET
JETS IN SYRIA MAY BE MIG-23'S

REF:

DREW MIDDLETON REPORTS IN THE APRIL 2 NEW YORK TIMES THAT SYRIA IS RECEIVING MIG-23 FLAMER FIGHTER-BOMBER FROM THE SOVIET UNION. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, DEFENSE MINISTER MOSHE DAYAN CITED ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE AS THE SOURCE OF REPORTS THAT TWO SOVIET MERCHANT SHIPS WERE READING THE AIRPORT.

THERE IS NO EVIDENCE AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME TO CONFIRM THE ISRAELI REPORT.

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RELEASING OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION

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IN THE SAME ARTICLE, DEVERE WENSTEDT DAYAN IS QUOTED AS SAYING THERE ARE 3,000 CUBAN MILITARY PERSONNEL IN AN ARMORED BRIGADE NOW STATIONED IN SYRIA.

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WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE

AS TO HOW MANY ARE IN THE COUNTRY.

SOME PROBABLY ARE SERVING AS ENGINEERS AND OTHERS MAY BE INTEGRATED INTO THE AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM. A SMALL CUBAN MEDICAL UNIT ALSO IS IN THE COUNTRY.

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APR 1978 EDITIONS

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